IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Maertens et al. Atty. Ref.: 2551-109; Confirmation No. 3515

Appl. No. 09/899,303 TC/A.U. 1648

Filed: July 6, 2001 Examiner: Li, Bao Q.

For: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND

THERAPEUTIC USE

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February 1, 2006

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 26, 2006, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 6.